

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) A currency control system comprising:
a portable safe for holding currency;
a game-related device to which said portable safe is removably attachable, said portable safe functioning as a currency holding section of said game-related device when said portable safe is attached to said game-related device; and
a currency control device to which said portable safe is removably attachable and which is located at a position remote from said game-related device, and, when said portable safe is attached to said currency control device, said currency control device provides at least one of (i) transferring currency into said portable safe from said currency control device and (ii) transferring currency held in said portable safe from said portable safe to said currency control device, said portable safe being transportable between said game-related device and said currency control device .
2. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 1, wherein said currency holding section provides for at least one of (i) holding currency inserted from outside said game-related device and (ii) holding currency to be discharged from said game-related device.
3. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 1, comprising a system control computer providing unitary control of quantities of currency in said game-related device, said portable safe, and said currency control device.
4. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 1, comprising an anomaly detection device for detecting an anomaly occurring in said portable safe.

5. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 4, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when said portable safe is not attached to one of said game-related device and said currency control device.

6. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 4, wherein said anomaly detection device is located on said portable safe.

7. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 4, comprising an anomaly notifying section for issuing an anomaly notification when said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly.

8. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 4, wherein said anomaly detection device detects a destructive anomaly for said portable safe.

9. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 4, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when said portable safe is neither attached to said game-related device nor to said currency control device for too long a time.

10. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 4, wherein said anomaly detection device includes a positional anomaly detection device detecting an anomaly based on location of said portable safe.

11. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 10, wherein said positional anomaly detection device is located at a location remote from said portable safe.

12. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 3, wherein attaching said portable safe to and removing said portable safe from said game-related device or said currency control device requires an operator's card of an authorized operator to be inserted into said game-related device or said currency control device.

13. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 12, wherein the operator's card has an operator's code recorded thereon, said system control computer has the operator's code registered in advance and corresponding to the operator, and agreement of the operator's code recorded on the operator's card with the operator's code registered in said system control computer is at least one condition for determining authority of an authorized operator.

14. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 13, wherein the operator's code recorded on the operator's card includes an operator's peculiar code peculiar to the operator and a random number generated and affixed to the peculiar code when a specified event occurs.

15. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 1, wherein said portable safe exchanges information by wireless communication with said game-related device to which said portable safe is attached or with said currency control device to which said portable safe is attached.

16. (Currently Amended) A portable safe removably attachable to a game-related device used by players and removably attachable to a currency control device, which is ~~separate~~ located at a position remote from the game-related device, for dispensing and retrieving currency, said portable safe comprising:

a housing for holding currency; and

an antenna located on said housing for exchanging information by wireless communication with the game-related device and the currency control device, wherein

said housing includes a currency insertion window section, a currency discharging window section, a first shutter plate closing said currency insertion window section, a second shutter plate closing said currency discharging window section, a lock mechanism for locking said first and second shutter plates, and an unlocking mechanism for unlocking said lock mechanism upon detecting attachment of said portable safe to the game-related device or to the currency control device,

said portable safe functions as a currency holding section of the game-related device when attached to the game-related device and as a currency holding section of the currency control device when attached to the currency control device,

said portable safe, when attached to the currency control device, provides for at least one of (i) transferring currency into said portable safe from the currency control device and (ii) transferring currency held in said portable safe from said portable safe to the currency control device, and

said portable safe is transportable between the game-related device and the currency control device for transporting currency between the game-related device and the currency control device.

17. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 16, including an anomaly detection device for detecting an anomaly occurring in said portable safe.

18. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 17, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when said portable safe is neither attached to the game-related device nor to the currency control device.

19. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 17, comprising an anomaly notifying section for issuing an anomaly notification when said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly.

20. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 17, wherein said anomaly detection device detects a destructive anomaly for said portable safe.

21. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 17, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when said portable safe is neither attached to the game-related device nor to the currency control device for too long a time.

22. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 17, wherein said anomaly detection device includes a positional anomaly detection device detecting an anomaly based on location of said portable safe.

23. (Previously Presented) A currency control system comprising:

a plurality of portable safes for holding currency;

a plurality of game-related devices to which each of said portable safes is removably attachable, each of said portable safes functioning as a currency holding section of a game-related device to which a corresponding portable safe is attached; and

a currency control device to which each of said portable safes is removably attachable and which is located at a position remote from said game-related devices, and, when any one of said portable safes is attached to said currency control device, said currency control device proves at least one of (i) transferring currency into said portable safe from said currency control device attached to said currency control device and (ii) transferring currency held in said portable safe from said portable safe attached to said currency control device.

24. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 23, wherein said currency holding section provides for at least one of (i) holding currency inserted from outside said game-related device and (ii) holding currency to be discharged from said game-related devices.

25. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 23, comprising a system control computer providing unitary control of quantities of currency in said game-related devices, said portable safes, and said currency control device.

26. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 23, comprising an anomaly detection device for detecting an anomaly occurring in said portable safes.

27. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 26, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when any of said portable safes is not attached to one of said game-related devices and said currency control device.

28. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 26, including a plurality of said anomaly detection devices, wherein each of said anomaly detection devices is located on a corresponding one of said portable safes.

29. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 26, comprising an anomaly notifying section for issuing an anomaly notification when said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly.

30. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 26, wherein said anomaly detection device detects a destructive anomaly in any of said portable safes.

31. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 26, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when any of said portable safes is neither attached to one of said game-related devices nor to said currency control device for too long a time.

32. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 26, wherein said anomaly detection device includes a positional anomaly detection device detecting an anomaly based on location of any of said portable safes.

33. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 32, wherein said positional anomaly detection device is located at a location remote from said portable safes.

34. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 25, wherein attaching said portable safes to and removing said portable safes from respective game-related devices or said currency control device requires an operator's card of an authorized operator to be inserted into said game-related device or said currency control device from which a portable safe is being removed or to which a portable safe is being attached.

35. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 34, wherein the operator's card has an operator's code recorded thereon, said system control computer has the operator's code registered in advance and corresponding to the operator, and agreement of the operator's code recorded on the operator's card with the operator's code registered in said system control computer is at least one condition for determining authority of an authorized operator.

36. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 35, wherein the operator's code recorded on the operator's card includes an operator's peculiar code peculiar to the operator and a random number generated and affixed to the peculiar code when a specified event occurs.

37. (Previously Presented) The currency control system according to claim 23, wherein each of said portable safes exchanges information by wireless communication with the corresponding game-related device to which said portable safe is attached or with said currency control device to which said portable safe is attached.

38. (Currently Amended) A portable safe removably attachable to each of a plurality of game-related devices used by players and removably attachable to a currency control device which is located at a position remote from the game-related devices, for dispensing and retrieving currency, said portable safe comprising:

a housing for holding currency; and

an antenna located on the housing for exchanging information by wireless communication with the game-related device to which the portable safe is attached and the currency control device, wherein

said housing includes a currency insertion window section, a currency discharging window section, a first shutter plate closing said currency insertion window section, a second shutter plate closing said currency discharging window section, a lock mechanism for locking said first and second shutter plates, and an unlocking mechanism for unlocking said locked mechanism upon detecting attachment of said portable safe to one of the game-related devices or to the currency control device,

said portable safe functions as a currency holding section of any of the game-related devices to which said portable safe is attached and as a currency holding section of the currency control device when attached to the currency control device, ~~and~~

said portable safe, when attached to the currency control device, provides for at least one of (i) transferring currency into said portable safe from the currency control device and (ii) transferring currency held in said portable safe from said portable safe to the currency control device, and.

said portable safe is transportable between the game-related device and the currency control device for transporting currency between the game-related device and the currency control device.

39. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 38, including an anomaly detection device for detecting an anomaly occurring in said portable safe.

40. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 39, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when said portable safe is neither attached to one of the game-related devices nor to the currency control device.

41. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 39, comprising an anomaly notifying section for issuing an anomaly notification when said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly.

42. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 39, wherein said anomaly detection device detects a destructive anomaly for said portable safe.

43. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 39, wherein said anomaly detection device detects an anomaly when said portable safe is neither attached to one of the game-related devices nor to the currency control device for too long a time.

44. (Previously Presented) The portable safe according to claim 39, wherein said anomaly detection device includes a positional anomaly detection device detecting an anomaly based on location of said portable safe.

45. (New) The currency control system according to claim 1, wherein said game-related device is a game card vending machine dispensing game cards for purchasing games on a game machine, when said portable safe is attached to said game card vending machine, in response to insertion of money into said portable safe to pay for a game card.

46. (New) The currency control system according to claim 45, wherein said game card vending machine includes a game card storage section for storing game cards to be sold, a currency discriminating section for determining value of money inserted into said game card vending machine, and a game card dispenser for discharging game cards from said game card storage section upon purchase of the cards.

47. (New) The currency control system according to claim 23, wherein at least one of said game-related devices is a game card vending machine dispensing game cards for purchasing games on a game machine, when said portable safe is attached to said game card vending machine, in response to insertion of money into said portable safe to pay for a game card.

48. (New) The currency control system according to claim 47, wherein said game card vending machine includes a game card storage section for storing game cards to be sold, a currency discriminating section for determining value of money inserted into said game card vending machine, and a game card dispenser for discharging game cards from said game card storage section upon purchase of the cards.